

REMARKS

Claims 1, 5, 7 and 11-14 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 7 are amended and claims 4 and 15 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. The undersigned thanks Examiner Hayes for the courtesies extended to the undersigned during the November 20 personal interview. The substance of the personal interview is incorporated into the following remarks and constitutes a record of the interview. Reconsideration and reexamination is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

I. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 7 is amended to obviate the rejection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

II. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 4-7, 11 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Dillon (U.S. Patent No. 5,727,065) in view of Bowman (U.S. Patent No. 5,999,623) and Downs (U.S. Patent No. 6,226,618 B1); and rejects claims 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Dillon, Bowman, Downs and further in view of Stefik (U.S. Patent No. 5,634,012). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

With respect to independent claim 1, neither Dillon, Bowman nor Downs, individually or in combination, disclose or suggest generating a decoding key that decodes the encrypted content from actual decoding information accompanying the encrypted content and user identifying information, as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claim 7.

Dillon discloses an electronic document delivery system where a broadcast center periodically sends "a catalog" of available documents to a receiving computer, thereby

allowing a user to browse through the available documents without having to access the broadcast center (see Abstract of Dillon). However, Dillon does not disclose or even suggest generating a decoding key that decodes the encrypted content from actual decoding information accompanying the encrypted content and user identifying information.

Bowman pertains to enabling an authorized receiver station to decrypt encrypted information broadcast by a transmitting station, for decrypting the information within the authorized receiver station (see Abstract of Bowman). Specifically, Bowman discloses in Figs. 1a and 2 and at col. 15, lines 33-45 that the Tag value included in the data field (F2) enables an authorized receiver station (A-D) to retrieve a correct S-Key value or D-Key value stored in a memory 12 within the authorized station. If the correct S-Key is retrieved from memory 12, the S-Key enables the authorized station to generate the D-Key used to decrypt the encrypted information from data field (F4). However, Bowman does not disclose or suggest that the D-key is generated from the Tag value. Instead, the Tag value merely indicates where the correct S-Key or D-Key may be located in a memory. Accordingly, Bowman does not disclose or suggest generating a decoding key that decodes the encrypted content from actual decoding information accompanying the encrypted content and user identifying information.

Downs discloses that the encrypted content and the decrypting key are sent separately (see Abstract of Downs). Therefore, Downs does not disclose or suggest generating a decoding key that decodes the encrypted content from actual decoding information accompanying the encrypted content and user identifying information.

Independent claim 7 is also allowable for reasons as discussed with respect to claim 1.

Further, neither Dillon, Bowman nor Downs, individually or in combination, disclose or suggest the list of information is displayed upon decoding of the encrypted content by a user, as recited in independent claim 7. Dillon does not disclose this feature. Bowman discloses that a receiver station (A-D) may be authorized to decrypt as many encrypted sub-

blocks of information (Sba-SBn) as are broadcast from the transmitter station 6 throughout the durations of particular ones of the time periods P1-Pn. However, Bowman makes no mention of the list of information is displayed upon decoding of the encrypted content by a user. Likewise, Downs makes no mention of this feature. Instead, Downs discloses that displayed information includes extracted metadata 173, for a music sample, the graphic images associated with a song and information describing the song, a preview clip of the song can also be listened to if included in the metadata SC. This information is displayed as a series of linked HTML pages in the browser window (of the user). See col. 73, lines 12-32.

Accordingly, independent claim 7 define patentable subject matter.

Moreover, Stefik does not cure the above noted deficiencies of Dillon, Bowman and Downs. Stefik discloses a fee accounting mechanism for accounting fees associated with the distribution and use of digital works (see Abstract of Stefik). However, Stefik does not disclose or even suggest the above noted features of independent claims 1 and 7.

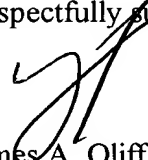
Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 7 define patentable subject matter. Claims 4, 5, 8 and 11-15 depend from the respective independent claims, and therefore also define patentable subject matter. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 5, 7 and 11-14 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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